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Payment Methods and Procedures For Fiscal Year 2014 Regulatory Fees

Each year, the Commission is required to collect regulatory fees. Licensees and regulatees are assessed fees as set forth in *Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2014, Report and Order*, (released August 29, 2014) ("FY 2014 Regulatory Fees, *Report and Order* and *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking"*). The Commission also publishes industry-specific guidance in *Who Owes Fees & What Is My FY 2014 Fee*, which can be found on the Commission website at http://www.fcc.gov/regfees.

The Commission's automated filing and payment system ("Fee Filer") is available for <u>filing</u> and <u>viewing</u> of FY 2014 regulatory fees. While FY 2014 regulatory fees will not become effective until the rulemaking is published in the Federal Register, regulatees at their own discretion, may submit payments at any time before the effective due date of FY 2014 regulatory fees. **Regulatory fee payments must be RECEIVED** ¹ by the Commission no later than 11:59 PM, Eastern Daylight Time, on September 23, 2014.

MANDATORY USE OF FEE FILER

The use of the online Fee Filer system for filing regulatory fees has not changed since the process was first initiated in FY 2009: licensees and regulatees must first enter the Commission's Fee Filer system with a valid FRN and password, and follow the online prompts to review their data and submit an electronic fee payment. Use of the online Fee Filer system is mandatory, and payments in the form of checks, money orders, and cashier's checks are no longer accepted. A Form 159-E voucher will only be accepted when the regulatee is making a wire transfer payment. Instructions on the use and submission of Form 159-E vouchers are available on the Commission's website and discussed later in this public notice.

Hardcopy/paper bills are <u>no longer mailed</u> by the FCC; however, bills are available for viewing in the "Regulatory Fee" link of Fee Filer. Licensees in the following services should consult the cited sources below for information on their fees.

Interstate Telecommunications Service Providers (ITSPs)

Please follow the guidance provided in the Fact Sheet: What You Owe—Interstate Telecommunications Service Providers for FY 2014.

Satellite Space Station Licensees

Please follow the guidance provided in the Fact Sheet: What You Owe—International and Satellite Services Licensees for FY 2014.

¹ The Commission has instituted a mandatory electronic payment policy, which means that licensees will no longer be able to make regulatory fee payments by check, money order, or cashier's check. Only credit card, ACH, and wire transfer payments will be accepted. Please make sure that your electronic fee payment is made and the transaction is complete by the due date of FY 2014 regulatory fees.

Earth Station Licensees

Please follow the guidance provided in the Fact Sheet: What You Owe—International and Satellite Services Licensees for FY 2014.

Cable Television Relay Service (CARS) Licensees

Please follow the guidance provided in the Fact Sheet: What You Owe—Cable Television Systems for FY 2014.

Media Service Licensees (Television, Including Satellite Television Stations, Will be Billed)

Fact Sheet: What You Owe—Media Service Licensees for FY 2014.

Commercial Wireless Services

Fact Sheet: What You Owe—Commercial Wireless Service Licensees for FY 2014.

For additional information, filers in these and any other fee category may contact the Financial Operations Help Desk at 877-480-3201, Option 4.

FCC REGISTRATION NUMBER (FRN) MUST BE CURRENT IN CORES

It is very important for licensees and regulatees to have a current and valid FRN address on file in the Commission's Registration System (CORES). To file and pay regulatory fees, fee payors will need to have their FRN passwords available when entering Fee Filer. When entering Fee Filer, using a specific FRN and password linked to a particular regulatory fee bill will help to reduce the reporting time. Fee payors that do not have an FRN should go to www.fcc.gov and click on the link to FCC Registration Number (FRN) Commission Registration System (CORES) to obtain one.

LIMITATIONS ON CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS

The U.S Treasury will not process credit card transactions greater than \$49,999.99. Treasury Financial Manual (TFM) No. A-2012-02 (February 2012) directs agencies to limit credit card collections amounts not to exceed \$49,999.99. The revised policy, effective June 30, 2012, lowers the maximum dollar amount for a credit card transaction from \$99,999.99 to \$49,999.99, and eliminates the maximum dollar limit for a debit card transaction.

In addition, the U.S. Treasury will reject multiple credit card transactions from a single credit card in a single day that total more than \$49,999.99. The system will also reject transactions charged to a credit card on that day that exceed the total daily dollar limit of \$49,999.99. The FCC policy will conform to the U.S. Treasury policy. Fee payors needing to remit amounts of \$50,000.00 or greater must use alternative methods of payment: debit card, ACH or FedWire. The FCC will post warnings on FCC websites to remind licensees of the U.S. Treasury policy. Additional information can be found at http://www.fcc.gov/regfees.

Regulatory fee payments that exceed the U.S. Treasury limit and are rejected by Treasury, causing a payment not to meet the required payment deadline, will be subject to interest, fees, and a 25% late payment penalty.

ELECTRONIC FILING AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES (FOR ALL ENTITIES)

All fee payors must enter the FCC's Fee Filer system to begin the process of filing FY 2014 regulatory fees. The Fee Filer web application is located at: www.fcc.gov/feefiler. After logging in with an FRN and password, the Regulatory Fees option should be selected to display billed and non-billed regulatory fees. It is the responsibility of each fee payor to determine its regulatory fee obligation.

Fee Filer displays fee information associated with an FRN. Although the Commission makes every effort to assure the accuracy of the information contained in Fee Filer, the Commission cautions fee payors that any errors in the information contained in Fee Filer do not relieve fee payors of the responsibility to pay all fees correctly. Fee payors may make adjustments, corrections, additions, or deletions to the information contained i Fee Filer, if necessary.

For technical assistance, please contact the Financial Operations Help Desk at (877) 480-3201, Option 4.

PAYMENT METHODS

Licensees and regulatees may pay their regulatory fees by any of the following methods;

- Credit card (online)
- Wire transfer
- ACH (Automated Clearing House) / debit from bank account (online) via Fee Filer

Checks, Money Orders, and Cashier's Checks are No Longer Accepted for Payment of Regulatory Fees²

Credit Card (online):

The FCC accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express.

- To pay online by credit card, fee payors must first submit electronic filing information through the FCC's Fee Filer web application, and will then have the option to pay online by choosing the "Pay by Credit Card" option.
- Limitations on credit card transactions: As noted previously, the U.S. Treasury will reject credit card transactions greater than \$49,999.99 from a single credit card in a single day.

Wire Transfer:

A wire transfer is a transaction that is initiated through a bank, authorizing the bank to wire funds from an

account to the Federal Reserve Bank, NYC (TREAS NYC). All payments made by wire transfer (payable to the Federal Communications Commission) must be supported by a completed Form 159-E remittance voucher, which should be captioned at the top, "Wire Transfer - Regulatory Fee Payment." The Form 159-E will already have the Lockbox number ("979084") pre-printed on the form. This must be FAXed to FCC Government Lockbox - Regulatory Fees (U.S. Bank in St. Louis, Missouri) at (314) 418-4232 at least one hour before the wire transfer on the same business day, so as not to delay crediting the payment. Please note that most wire transfers initiated after 6:00 p.m. (EDT) will be credited the next business day. Fee payors should discuss arrangements (including bank closing schedules, and bank wire transaction fees for which the Commission is not responsible) with their bankers several days before they plan to make the wire transfer to allow sufficient time for the transfer to be initiated and completed before the deadline, especially if the wire transfer is an international one. Complete instructions for making wire payments are posted at http://www.fcc.gov/regfees.

² Payors should note that this change will mean that entities that have previously paid both regulatory fees and application fees at the same time by paper check will no longer be able to do so because regulatory fees payments by paper check will no longer be accepted.

When initiating the wire transfer, please provide the bank with the following information to complete the transfer:

ABA Routing Number: 021030004 Receiving Bank: TREAS NYC 33 Liberty St. New York, NY 10045

BNF: FCC/ACCT--27000001

OBI Field: (Skip one space between each information item)\"REGULATORY PAY"

PAYER FRN (Exactly as on remittance instrument)
PAYER NAME (Exactly as on remittance instrument)

Phone: (Daytime Phone #, exactly as on remittance instrument)

VOUCHER NUMBER (Exactly as on remittance (Form 159-E) instrument)

ACH Payments (Debit from Bank Account)

- To pay online from a bank account, fee payors must first submit their electronic filing information via the FCC's Fee Filer web application; they will then have the option to pay online by choosing the "Pay from Bank Account" option. Note: Fee payors are strongly encouraged to contact their financial institutions to confirm that the correct Routing Number for this method of payment is being used. Fee payors should also verify with their bank that their account has authorization to accept ACH transactions.
- Fee payors may choose to pay by ACH using personal checking, personal savings, business checking, and business savings.
- For purposes of meeting the filing deadline, the FCC will consider payment to be received when account information is successfully accepted. Funds may not clear for up to 2 business days. Fee payors are responsible for obtaining confirmation from their financial institution that payment was successfully debited from the designated account(s).

Because CHECKS, MONEY ORDERS, AND CASHIER'S CHECKS are no longer accepted for payment of regulatory fees, a mailing or courier address is not provided.

DE MINIMIS FEE PAYMENT LIABILITY

Licensees and regulatees whose <u>total</u> FY 2014 regulatory fee liability, including all categories of fees for which payment is due, amounts to less than \$10 are exempt from payment of FY 2014 regulatory fees.

OTHER OUESTIONS REGARDING REGULATORY FEES

The following Fact Sheets and Websites are available at http://www.fcc.gov/regfees to help licensees with their regulatory fee obligations:

FACT SHEET: WHAT YOU OWE - CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS—FY2014

FACT SHEET: WHAT YOU OWE - MEDIA SERVICES LICENSEES-FY2014

FCC LOOK-UP WEBSITE FOR MEDIA SERVICES LICENSEES OWING FY 2014 REGULATORY FEES

FACT SHEET: WHAT YOU OWE - COMMERCIAL WIRELESS SERVICES—FY201

FACT SHEET: WHAT YOU OWE - INTERNATIONAL AND SATELLITE SERVICES LICENSEES—FY2014

PUBLIC NOTICE: SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEMS—FY2014

FACT SHEET: WHAT YOU OWE - INTERSTATE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS—FY2014

FACT SHEET: WAIVERS, REDUCTIONS AND DEFERMENTS OF REGULATORY FEES—FY2014 FACT SHEET: REGULATORY FEE EXEMPTIONS—FY2014

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Licensees and regulatees should contact the Commission's Financial Operations Help Desk with inquiries regarding regulatory fees at (877) 480-3201 Option 4 or e-mail inquiries to ARINQUIRIES@FCC.GOV.